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The World Campaign against Atomic War

The great campaign against the preparation of atomic war is the answer to a grave danger. For in the recent decisions of the N.A.T.O. Council the representatives of the governments concerned decided to base the whole mil tary organisation of N.A.T.O. on the use of atomic weapons – a decision which brazenly flouts world public opinion.

This is no mere trial balloon put up by individual politicians, no mere threat of some big brass-hat. It is an act of responsible governments. It means that armies are to be re-equipped on an atomic basis; it means a great increase in the number of dangerous experiments for their use. It applies to any conflict which may arise in the future. It is an encouragement to militarists and adventurers to precipitate aggression. It strengthens the possibilities for blackmail and pressure on small countries. It means that any war which might break out in any part of the world would inevitably be transformed into atomic world war. It threatens every country without distinction, just when scientists agree in recognising that atomic war could lead humanity to destruction.

Every military disposition taken or planned up till now becomes yet more threatening after the decisions of the N.A.T.O. Council.

The plans to rearm Germany become an even greater danger to world peace, since they would, in fact, arm the former Hitler generals with thermonuclear weapons.

In other parts of the world, too, the atomic danger becomes much sharper: in Asia because of military blocs like S.E.A.T.O. and of repeated provocations; in the countries of Latin America and in the Middle East, placed under the permanent threat of the use of force.

Such are the new dangers which led the Bureau of the World Council to set going with great urgency a campaign against the preparation of atomic war. This will be a signature campaign. It is based upon simple demands and common sense solutions: the destruction in all countries of stocks of atomic weapons and an immediate halt to their manufacture. These demands must be taken up by the whole human race.

In 1950, the Stockholm Appeal received 500 million signatures. The immense support given to this Appeal has been a decisive element in preventing the use of the atomic weapon in the wars which have now stopped.

Today, though it is true that the danger has become even greater, it is true too that the peoples' opposition has continually increased. This has shown itself on the widest scale in every country, far outside the circles of those who signed at the time of the Stockholm Appeal.

For these reasons, the campaign which has now started should lead to a protest movement incomparably greater than that of five years ago. The important thing is that the campaign should be developed quickly, to enable public opinion to express itself before it is too late. The World Assembly for Peace, which is to take place on the 22nd May at Helsinki, must be in a position to express the irresistible will of the peoples to oppose the preparation and the outbreak of atomic war.

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PREPARING THE WORLD ASSEMBLY

Declaration by Mr. Otto Nuschke

Vice-Premier of the German Democratic Republic

I welcome the Appeal of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace demanding the destruction of all stocks of atomic weapons wherever they may be and the immediate stopping of their manufacture. The sentence: 'Now and in the future, we shall oppose those who organise atomic war' exactly expresses the will of all tendencies and organisations for peace and particularly of Christians throughout the world. For indeed the hydrogen bomb is incompatible with the Sermon on the Mount and the Christmas Message.

I also welcome the Bureau's decision to call a great World Assembly of Representatives of All Organisations and Tendencies for Peace in Helsinki on May 22. This World Assembly will have to act as the conscience of the peoples. It should represent all humanist tendencies whatever their philosophical views or religious convictions. We in Germany shall do our utmost to extend the influence of the peace forces and win more and more men and women to join the World Council of Peace in its work. That is the lever of Archimedes that can topple the policy of strength and the plans for a blitzkrieg.

Berlin, January 25, 1955

Plans of Japanese Peace Committee

Meeting in Tokyo on January 14 and 15, the Japanese Peace Committee decided to hold a National Assembly of Representatives of the Peace Forces at the beginning of May, prior to the World Assembly.

Other decisions taken at this meeting were:

— To make known in every corner of Japan the Appeal of the World Council of Peace for the calling of a World Assembly;

— To give special consideration to the question of cooperation with peace forces which do not belong to the World Peace Movement, by closer contacts with the trade unions and with the organisations of the peasants, women, young people, religious circles and intellectuals, and by forming preparatory committees on which these organisations would be represented;

— To organise small meetings and discussions everywhere, especially in factories, shops, schools and homes, and elect delegates to district conferences;

— The problems to be discussed with the people are the banning of the A and H bombs and peace and security in Asia.

Delegates from Hokkaido District proposed a 'Peace Cruise' from Japan to Leningrad. The ship would take representatives to the World Assembly on board and visit different countries on the way. This proposal was unanimously endorsed and the session charged the Standing Committee to draw up concrete plans for it.

A Book by Professor Joliot-Curie, President of the World Council of Peace:

'FIVE YEARS OF STRUGGLE FOR PEACE'

As part of the steps taken to mark the fifth anniversary of the foundation of the World Peace Movement 'Défense de la Paix' Publications has put out, in Paris, under the title Five Years of Struggle for Peace, *a volume of Professor Joliot-Curie's speeches, letters and articles during this period.*

The book is, in effect, a history of the World Peace Movement, its birth and development, the campaigns it has launched, the struggles it has conducted and the victories it has won. Reflected in it are the many effective actions accomplished by the peoples under its leadership since 1949 and which resulted in ending the Korea and Indo-China wars and in preventing the use of the atomic bomb in these two conflicts, thereby proving that there is no international problem that cannot be settled through negotiation.

But at the same time as he goes back over the ground covered since the Pleyel Congress with Professor Joliot-Curie, the reader finds a clear exposition of the principles and objectives of the Peace Movement, as set out and explained in each one of its President's speeches, together with the Movement's position on the major questions, failure to settle which involves the danger of another world war.

Many people, many organisations and tendencies now uphold the ideas which our Movement announced at the time of its foundation and has defended ever since. One need only mention those of the settlement of differences through negotiation or, on another level, of the dangers of German rearmament. Today, hundreds of millions of men and women are demanding with us the abolition of weapons of mass destruction.

The situation would be quite different if the Peace Movement took its stand on anything other than concrete reality and the serious analysis of this reality. The speeches of its President are an example of this.

At the Warsaw Congress Professor Joliot-Curie said, speaking of the Stockholm Appeal:

'The march towards a stable peace must be done by stages and the objectives to be successively attained must be simple ... It was therefore the clearest and most urgent problem that had to be raised.'

That is the principle that has guided each of the campaigns launched by our Movement and the book brings out, for the benefit of all its members, this method which makes necessary the long and patient work which they are doing.

For this reason Professor Joliot-Curie's book is indispensable to all who wish to know the truth about our Movement and is a real textbook for every one of its members.

Five Years of Struggle for Peace *is also a picture of Frédéric Joliot-Curie, one of the greatest scientists of our century, at the head of the great battle against those who consciously want war, to whom he says: 'You must reckon with us.'*

The name of Joliot-Curie is today linked with the discovery of atomic energy; no one is better equipped to judge its glorious possibilities and mortal dangers. That is why his name will always be connected with the struggle for the banning of atomic weapons.

In his very first speech Professor Joliot-Curie sounds the alarm. He throws light on the awful perspective of an atomic massacre, he argues passionately. The man who personally proposed the launching of the Stockholm Appeal speaks to scientists, intellectuals and all men, strongly opposing all the fraudulent uses to which science is put.

The book ends with the warning that Professor Joliot-Curie gave on October 30, 1954: 'Do not allow the ratification of the London and Paris Agreements!' But it is not yet finished. Every struggle the peoples conduct, every new danger and every new victory will provide material for further pages. Already, in this Bulletin, further declarations by the President of the World Council of Peace have appeared.

Five Years of Struggle for Peace *has come out at the right time. Important victories have been won; decisive action is still needed against the manœuvres of those who wish to wipe out what has been achieved by the peace movement; the 1955 World Assembly is in preparation. Here we have a book which reviews the forces of the Movement, speaks the truth about what the Movement is and what it wants and provides its members with theoretical arguments.*

Fourth Hungarian Peace Congress

The Presiding Committee of the Hungarian Peace Council met on January 3. Mrs. Janos Bugar, Secretary of the Council, spoke on the tasks of the Hungarian women's movement and gave information on the results of the vast protest campaign against West German rearmament.

The Presiding Committee decided to hold the Fourth Hungarian Peace Congress in Budapest on February 26 and 27.

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MEETING OF THE BUREAU OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

(Vienna, January 17—19, 1955)

The last number of the Bulletin of the World Council of Peace contained the Appeal against the Preparations for Atomic War, the Statement and the Appeal to the Peoples of Europe adopted by the extended meeting of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace in Vienna on January 17—19.

The following pages contain extracts from the speeches made by members of the Bureau and guests.

There were two points on the agenda of the Bureau meeting:

1) The tasks of the Peace Movement in relation to the decision of the N.A.T.O. Council on the use of nuclear weapons.

2) The continued development of the struggle against the ratification and implementation of the Paris Agreements for the revival of German militarism.

The Rev. RAGNAR FORBECK

(Norway)

A few weeks ago Pastor Martin Niemöller, who is very well-known in Norway, sent me a circular entitled 'The Christian must not come too late'. Apropos of peaceful negotiations he writes: 'Here in West Germany they say that peace is a Soviet slogan.' It does not matter to me whether it is a Soviet slogan or not. I ask: why is it not our slogan? Are we to ask people to take an effective stand for peace, while we ourselves are incapable of speaking clearly and unequivocally? I mean that we must not only demand peace in the name of God and of Jesus Christ, but also ask the Christian Church and all Christians to start doing genuine work for peace. For it is our duty to work for peace...

Last Spring I spent five unforgettable weeks in New China, and through me the leaders of the Chinese Church sent a message to Norwegian Christians. It says:

'As Christians we cannot remain aloof from work for peace, we cannot enjoy our peace with God and be satisfied with ourselves if we neglect to work for peace among men.' I too should like to make a fervent appeal to ministers of religion and to those who belong to no denomination: 'Awake and come and work for peace with us before it is too late'...

Today, it is we, the friends of peace, who are the genuine realists. We have both feet on the ground and, to avoid falling into abstraction, we are today meeting to deal with concrete tasks: the banning of atomic weapons, the struggle against German rearmament alongside the German Social Democrats and the holding of a World Assembly of representatives of the forces of peace in every country in the world. We must do our utmost to save peace.

Mr. WILHELM ELFES

(German Federal Republic)

The idea of the rearmament of West Germany is the cause of increasing anxiety in the countries contiguous to the Federal Republic. The people of the Federal Republic themselves are more and more becoming a prey to this anxiety because they know what fascism and militarism mean; they suffered from them in their own flesh, and they see fascist and militarist elements gradually coming to dominate the policy of the Federal Republic. You, my friends, know that we West Germans, that all Germans have stated in all our conferences and congresses that the German people want peace and that the remilitarisation of West Germany is being accomplished against our will. You believed our assurances and we thank you for it. We are happy today to be able to bring you the confirmation of what has always been, as it were, a mere verbal promise. Look at West Germany now, look at the Federal Republic now! The women and the mothers are our most courageous and resolute collaborators in work for peace and against war. The young people have expressed their position clearly, resolutely and forcefully, as is only natural. They have said: we do not want to go into barracks, we do not want to take part in manœuvres, we do not want to fight another war, we do not want brothers to shoot each other down. We want an honest and secure job, we want to work for our own and our people's prosperity. The Trade Unions have adopted resolutions against remilitarisation and for negotiations which would lead to agreement, and the news that we are now receiving on the debates in the Bavarian trade unions is proof that these resolutions were not taken lightly...

The German Social Democratic Party is today openly opposed to the Paris Agreements because they are an obstacle to the reunification of Germany and to agreement. We all feel great satisfaction at the attitude of the Social Democratic Party and the work it is doing.

D. N. PRITT Q. C.

(Great Britain)

The rearmament of Western Germany, largely under the leadership of the worst elements surviving from the Nazi period, and equipped, moreover, with atomic weapons, would directly and greatly increase the danger of a third world war. It would render virtually impossible the reunification of Germany in one democratic country. It would of necessity involve the rearmament of the German Democratic Republic. All this of itself would maintain and increase the existing tension in Europe and would directly increase the likelihood of the outbreak of the third world war.

This rearmament of Western Germany would at the same time recreate the danger that a remilitarised Germany would once again turn to aggression, after all, Westwards against its creators instead of Eastwards against its intended target...

As to the fight against the proposals to use nuclear weapons, we in Britain, as most other people, know that this fight and the fight against German rearmament constitute integrally and essentially one fight; and we for ourselves in Britain know too that, if it is possible to calculate degrees of horror in the nightmare of atomic horrors which certain elements seek to prepare for the destruction of the world, the use of nuclear weapons does present greater and more direct danger to the peoples of Great Britain than to almost any other people.

Dr. JAMES G. ENDICOTT

(Canada)

I am here to speak for the 100,000 Canadian boys who lie buried in the soil of Western Europe. They died to save Western Europe from German militarism. I happen to be a veteran of the Canadian Corps of the First World War and today I speak for the conscience of the Canadian people. The overwhelming majority of the Canadian people do not want any more war, they are opposed to atomic warfare and they are opposed to any revival of German militarism . . .

There are a number of military dodos wandering loose in the atomic age. They are busy giving press interviews saying that the hydrogen bomb will be used and that atom bombs will make a jolly hot war and kill a lot of people. One of these fellows says he is a Christian and reads his Bible regularly. Well, he did not find that poisonous stuff in his Bible. In my opinion, any man today who advocates atomic warfare is a devil-worshipper. The love of God is unknown to him. Devil worshippers, armed with atom weapons, are far more dangerous than people who do not believe in God.

In 1945 one small, out-of-date bomb exploded over Nagasaki. They call it a baby bomb. That is a good name for it. Look at what that baby atom bomb has done to the babies of Nagasaki . . .

Listen to this: 8 were born without eyes or eye-sockets, 25 born without brains, 47 had undeveloped brains, 965 had abnormalities of various organs, 1,046 had degenerated bone structure, or nervous system or skin defects. In short, one baby in seven greatly harmed or ruined by one small atom bomb. And yet, today, both Dulles and the devil-worshippers are planning to use hundreds of them. Giving them into the hands of ex-Nazis will make certain that they are used. Does anybody doubt what Hitler would have done with an atom bomb?

Therefore, not only must we win the struggle against a new Nazi army but we must redouble our efforts to have our Appeal accepted by all governments, and all atomic weapons must be outlawed and abolished.

Mr. LIU CHANG-SHENG

(China)

The Chinese people have invariably opposed the rearmament of Western Germany, since the Fascist Axis of Germany, Italy and Japan brought disaster to China during the Second World War . . .

In the name of the six hundred million Chinese men and women I want to assure you of our unreserved support for the tireless struggle which the peoples of Europe have carried on against the rearmament of Western Germany and for collective peace in Europe. The support which the Chinese people give to the European peoples' struggle for peace is not only a promise but also a vow. I ask our European friends to believe in the strength of the support which the Chinese people can give, to believe in their desire to join with you and to offer you this strength . . .

Mr. EMILIO SERENI

(Italy)

Why are we once again having to raise the question of a world campaign after the great Stockholm campaign? Are we not merely repeating a campaign we have already carried out? Does it imply that we are admitting the futility of a campaign which had such repercussions in the world a few years ago?

I think that we must face up to a new situation by using new methods and that there is no question of repeating the Stockholm campaign, whatever forms this present campaign may take.

It seems to me that two new facts have been brought out in our discussion.

On the one hand, there are the increased efforts being made on a world scale by certain groups, certain political forces, to impose the rearmament of Western Germany on the people of Europe and of the whole world . . .

On the other, there is a new factor which has arrested the relaxation of international tension which began last year. It is not only the N.A.T.O. decisions indicated in the agenda but also statements on the use of the atomic bomb in the Far East — statements which are no longer being made merely by public figures or by a few brasshats, but by responsible politicians and military leaders . . .

The preparations for atomic war no longer consist merely in the manufacture of atomic and thermonuclear bombs. Concrete decisions have been taken involving the transformation of the whole military forces of certain countries on the basis of atomic strategy and tactics . . .

In my opinion, the gravity of these decisions lies in the fact that the process is irreversible. You cannot simultaneously prepare for atomic war and for another kind of war. At a given moment atomic war would become 'obligatory' if the joint forces of all the peoples did not succeed in stopping this madness.

I think that we must lay great stress on this point and mobilise the forces of the peoples immediately to prevent the world from travelling along this terrible road . . .

Mr. EMMANUEL D'ASTIER DE LA VIGERIE

(France)

Our Bureau would seem to agree now to give all its attention to the two most serious acts. The first is the unilateral decision to arm West Germany and to incorporate it in a coalition; and the second is the steps that the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation took in December on the one hand to prepare, and on the other to decide on, atomic war . . .

It is not possible to separate the two problems because, on the one hand, the rearmament of Germany will enable a new Wehrmacht to be given atomic weapons and, on the other, the new atomic strategy will lead the governments that support it to look on German territory and the German army as essential for the development of this strategy. It is for this particular reason that the French people found in the decisions taken by N.A.T.O. in December a new justification for their firm opposition to German rearmament . . .

The representatives of the French Peace Movement think that it is necessary to undertake without delay a vast campaign against the use and regularisation of atomic weapons. This campaign should neither replace nor be opposed to the campaign against remilitarisation. The campaign against the remilitarisation of Germany is not at an end and we affirm that it would not be without purpose even if ratification were to go through . . .

The French Prime Minister, Mr. Mendès-France, himself stated during the debate that if the agreements in question were only ratified by a small relative majority, that would create as many difficulties in practice as rejection. Today — and this must be repeated for the benefit of our friends from all countries — the parliamentary battle itself is not at an end. The renewal of mass popular activity at the beginning of January showed this and there exists a reasonable hope that the French Senate may put forward an amendment which will oblige the National Assembly to re-examine the agreements and refer the whole question back.

Mr. ILYA EHRENBURG

(Soviet Union)

The supporters of the 'policy of strength' themselves stress the link that exists between the revival of the Wehrmacht and the plans for the use of thermonuclear weapons. According to Louis Laroche, *France-Presse* correspondent, the leaders in the Pentagon state that they intend to carry out their programme in three or four years, a programme formulated in the following terms: 'The development of thermonuclear weapons and the complete remilitarisation of Germany'. Speaking in the House of Commons, Eden also put atomic weapons and the German divisions, which he called 'an important contribution', on the same level.

We were profoundly moved yesterday listening to the words of our President Joliot-Curie on the preparations for atomic war which threatens mankind with unprecedented horrors. Allow me to dwell on the plans to revive German militarism.

I would like to point out first of all that here we are dealing not with an equation containing unknown factors, but with the revival of the 'brown plague' that everybody knows. We have had enough of lying assurances about the allegedly new, democratic, defensive and even humanitarian nature of the West German army which Messrs. Dulles, Adenauer, Churchill and their recent but faithful friend Mendès-France are trying to set on foot! It is a question of reconstituting the same Wehrmacht which killed Churchill's countrymen and tortured Mendès-France's compatriots in the jails.

We know those whom it is intended to put at the head of the new German army: there is General Crüwell, former inspirer of the 'black Reichswehr', one of those who took part in the invasion of Yugoslavia; SS Divisional Commander General Manteuffel, butcher of old men, women and children in the Soviet Union; General Galland, one of the commanders of the Nazi air forces; Kretschmer, submarine pirate and favourite of the Führer; Heusinger, head of the strategic section of the General Staff of the Third Reich; and other war criminals. Who would dare to say that he doesn't know these gentlemen? The ruins of hundreds of towns — Polish and French towns, British and Soviet towns, know them; the widows of those who were killed and the children of those tortured to death know them; the pits where the victims of the SS lie buried know them ...

The question of the revival of the Wehrmacht is far from being settled, but already, from Bonn, which once gave Beethoven to mankind, we can hear the cries and curses of the Nazis who are again plucking up courage. Adenauer's closest collaborators are already openly speaking of both the reunification of Germany by force and of the 1939 frontiers. The N.A.T.O. leaders are reckoning on the spirit of revenge turning the Wehrmacht against the East — that is why they are in such a hurry to carry out the Paris Agreements. They want to see the revival of the army which reduced half of Europe to ashes, the army of the Anschluss, the army with marching songs about Strasbourg cathedral and Danish Schleswig, the army of revenge, of hatred and death ...

We have spoken a great deal about the principle of negotiation which should do away with the policy of strength. We have many times called on the politicians and the diplomats. Now we must call on the peoples. The principle of negotiation must, of course, prevail, but we must say to the ordinary people of all countries: 'If you do not now bring your diplomats and your politicians to the round table, they will drag you later on before the recruiting board, to the trenches and the air raid shelters.' The peoples of Europe will never agree to the revival of the Wehrmacht. No underhand combinations, arranged in the lobbies or buffets of the various parliaments, will give legal force to the Paris agreements. These agreements, on which the fate of Europe depends, were passed in Britain and France on a vote of only a minority of M.P.s. Is there any need to say that the majority of the electors of these countries, like the majority of West Germans, repudiate the revival of the Wehrmacht. All the cunning politicians will not succeed in imposing on the majority the will of the minority when it is a question of life or death.

The supporters of peace are the leaven of the peoples. The outcome of the main struggle for peace depends today on our efforts, our enthusiasm and our sacrifices. The peoples want to live. They will prevent the revival of the Wehrmacht. They will put an end to preparations for atomic war. They will save peace.

Mr. LOUIS SAILLANT

GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

All workers, whether or not they are members of our trade union organisations, know full well that the legalisation of the use of atomic weapons would make it easier for them to be used. Weapons of mass destruction make no distinctions and workers affiliated to the World Federation of Trade Unions, to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and to the International Confederation of Christian Trade Unions would all be their unfortunate victims.

This being so, we propose that the signature campaign for the appeal we shall issue at the end of this meeting should be carried on everywhere, in all trade unions and at all places of work.

The World Federation of Trade Unions is ready to call on its 80 million members and their leaders throughout the world to sponsor groups or committees for collecting signatures in all factories, whatever the categories of workers.

I repeat that we look on this task as a task of honour and that we are fully aware of our responsibilities, not only to our members but to world opinion as a whole.

Dr. JOSEF HROMADKA

(Czechoslovakia)

The main issues of the present era won't be solved on the level of diplomacy or the average routine politics, they will be solved in the hearts, in the minds and in the actions of the people in our villages, towns, and factories, on farms and everywhere, in all ways, in all walks of life ...

It always takes a long time until we are able to reach the living heart of man, but my experiences have taught me that the situation is not hopeless; if we are sincere, if we know what we want and if we bring relevant arguments for our point of view, we

On January 16 at Frankfurt-on Main in the German Federal Republic there was a mass rally and march which lasted for several hours in protest against remilitarisation and for the rejection of the London and Paris Agreements. Five thousand young people took part: trade unionists, Falcons, Socialist youth, the Friends of Nature, members of the German Federation of Socialist Students, the German Youth Community and other organisations.

cannot help having a success. Young people, students and genuine Christians among the church members are ready to listen, to react, to understand and to modify their own views even in the countries which belong to what we call the Western orbit of our present world. Is it not very significant that during the discussions at the General Assembly of the World Council of Churches last August at Evanston in the United States, a resolution was unanimously adopted urging all the Governments of the world to work for the abolition of the atom bomband to make some significant step along the lines of disarmament. That is very significant and very, very good . . .

The situation is grave. The situation may be disturbing and we have to be vigilant, we have to concentrate upon the points of danger and we have to have strong convictions of what we have to do. But we have to have a hopeful and joyful approach to the big issues of our time.

Mrs. ISABELLE BLUME

(Belgium)

SECRETARY OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

I speak here on behalf of all those little countries which for centuries have been ground between France and Germany as between the upper and nether millstones and which have been destined, throughout their history, to be the battlefield of Europe . . .

The most fabulous arsenal in the world is going to be set up on their doorstep and everywhere there will be stocks of atomic weapons which are rather evidence of the dangers we are running than of the power they confer on their possessors.

But all these evils that are piling up through the reconstitution of the Wehrmacht culminate in an even greater evil: the Wehrmacht will be in possession of atomic weapons and could use them tactically and strategically . . .

The N.A.T.O. decision obliges us to think of what would happen to our countries if war were unleashed. Holland, whose territory has been won from the sea in a battle that has gone on for centuries, will disappear under the sea again with the first hydrogen bomb that is dropped on her. The population of Belgium, which is one of the most dense in the world, will be destroyed at one blow, and the blast furnaces of the Grand Duchy are much too visible and tempting targets to be missed by the annihilating thunderbolt . . .

But our peoples have learned that it is possible to struggle against the decisions of governments and parliaments . . .

Let the parliaments be besieged by deputations, let the will of ordinary people be brought to their notice so that the divorce between those who claim to represent the nations and accept the preparations for war on the one hand, and ordinary people not one of whom wants war, on the other, is made more and more strikingly clear.

And when we say not one we are thinking of the German people who, aware of their responsibility, are for the first time in the history of this century refusing to be the chosen instrument for unleashing another war which would mean both their destruction and ours. By struggling for their security, our little countries wish to help in the reunification, democratisation and pacification of Germany. To live in a world at peace is their only chance of survival.

Mr. ALBERTO CAVALCANTI

(Brazil)

The anger felt throughout the world as a result of the N.A.T.O. decision has been very deeply felt in my country. For this reason the Brazilian Peace Movement very strongly supports the proposals made at this meeting of the Bureau for a great signature campaign against atomic and thermonuclear weapons.

The Stockholm Appeal won four and a half million signatures in Brazil; this new campaign will win many more. The choice of the South Pole as a testing ground for the hydrogen bomb after the tragedy in the Pacific is a direct and frightful threat to the countries of Latin America.

We strongly support this signature campaign and ask all scientists, artists and intellectuals through out the world to join with their peoples in preventing another war at any price and in demanding the absolute banning of weapons of mass destruction which are a threat to all the peoples of the world.

Mr. BRUNO BERNINI

PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC YOUTH

The World Federation of Democratic Youth will give its full support to the world campaign and will put forth all its strength to make it a success. It has convened its Executive Committee for the month of February and the first point on the agenda is the young people's contribution to the struggle against the danger of an atomic war. Already, a number of delegations are setting out to take the decisions adopted here to many countries and to see to it that in the preparations for this summer's Fifth World Festival the young people express, in their own way, their support for this great campaign.

Mr. ERWIN SCHARF

(Austria)

In 1950 and 1951 more than 800,000 Austrians signed the Stockholm Appeal and, later, many public figures and organisations of various tendencies went on record for the banning of the atomic bomb . . .

The obviously positive effect of the Stockholm Appeal and the fact that it met with such a big response that it has so far succeeded in preventing the use of the atomic weapon convinces us that a further effort of this kind could help to spare the world an unspeakable catastrophe. It would be a great honour for us if such an important campaign were to start from our capital, Vienna.

If West Germany is rearmed and incorporated in N.A.T.O. the former Hitler generals will also have atomic weapons at their disposal.

The fact that the politicians in control in West Germany have still not given up their claims to Austria in itself shows the dangers of such a development for Austria . . .

The launching of a great campaign by this Vienna meeting of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace could make a capital contribution to the security of Europe. Austria can have no future except in a peaceful Europe and is therefore vitally interested in the banning of weapons of mass destruction.

Mr. HSIEH PANG-TING

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF STUDENTS

In accordance with its main watchword, 'Peace, national independence and a democratic education', and with its constitution, the International Union of Students gives its support, together with other peace-loving students in the world, to the call of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace.

At this decisive time when civilisation is under the grave threat of the use of nuclear weapons, we are sure that the students of the whole world will know what attitude to adopt and will take resolute action alongside the peace-loving peoples.

I conclude with these words of the Japanese students:

'Let us never allow another Hiroshima in the world!'

Mr. ANTOINE TABET

(Lebanon)

The peoples of the Near and Middle East are following with great interest and sympathy the struggle that is being conducted by all the peoples of Europe against the revival of German militarism. They are quite aware of the danger this represents not only to the security of Europe but to world peace . . .

We are aware of the gravity of the international situation and of the incalculable dangers to our countries and to mankind as a whole that could result from the use of atomic weapons at any level whatsoever . . .

The hundreds of thousands of people, from the man in the street to the most authoritative public figures, who signed the Stockholm Appeal, are still with us. The number of peace supporters has considerably increased in our countries and throughout the world. They can do better and they will do better.

It is our duty to tell them today, in the most solemn manner, that their future, the future of their children, their country and even of the human race is in their hands.

Mr. ABDUL RAHMAN BOUCHAMA

(Algeria)

Yes, a great campaign must be launched immediately . . .

In this respect, signature campaigns and world-wide days of action have in the past given the greatest stimulus and the best results. A world signature campaign is therefore indicated, but in size and effectiveness it must be different from all previous campaigns . . .

We salute the millions of signatures that have already been collected in Japan. We salute the Asian and Afro-Asian Conferences which are in preparation in the Far East. We salute the French people's great fight against the ratification of the London and Paris Agreements and we hope that it will win victory at the last moment . . .

All this constitutes an immense capital and augurs an unprecedented success.

The biggest problem will be the practical mobilisation of the millions of people throughout the world who would like nothing better than to go into action. Never at any time have we felt a greater need for wide, powerful national peace movements . . .

Speaking of the particular problems of North Africa, Mr. Bouchama continued:

North Africa is the main base of the so-called peripheral strategy. Algeria even has the sad privilege of belonging to the Atlantic Pact. Of course, it was others who signed for her. In our countries there are stocks of atomic weapons and aerodromes from which atomic bombers can take off . . .

Our people have every reason for mobilising and giving a mass reply to the Appeal that will come out of this Bureau meeting.

Mrs. HILDE NEUMANN

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DEMOCRATIC LAWYERS

Do there already exist international law conventions concerning the use of atomic weapons? To this question one must unreservedly reply in the affirmative . . .

In 1907 in the Hague Convention relative to war on land, the States agreed that the horrors of war must be kept within certain limits and that the civilian population of the belligerent countries must be spared. After the First World War this principle was confirmed and adapted to the new conditions in the Convention banning the use of toxic and asphyxiating gases signed in Geneva in 1925. This Convention was ratified by 49 States . . .

Like the 1948 Convention on genocide, the Nuremberg Judgement constitutes the broadest basis for classifying any new kind of weapons of mass destruction, any new technique in this domain as a violation of international law, as a crime . . .

No one can cast any doubt on the fact that the use of atomic weapons, even considered from a purely juridical point of view, constitutes the gravest crime. But any form of preparation for using atomic weapons is also a violation of international law.

PROFESSOR LEOPOLD INFELD

(Poland)

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

The Polish people cannot and will not be passive in the face of a reborn German militarism. Our past experiences are too deeply rooted in our memory for that.

The ratification of the Paris agreements will make the peaceful solution of the German problem impossible . . .

Those who engineered the Paris agreements claim just the opposite and try to convince a few naive people that the ratification of the Paris agreements will make negotiations easier. How can one talk about new negotiations for the peaceful solution of the German problem when at the same time one is rebuilding German might, when one is providing the divisions of the reborn Hitler Wehrmacht with atomic, chemical and other weapons of mass destruction in accordance with the latest decision of N.A.T.O?

The session of the World Council of Peace in 1953 announced that the idea of negotiations is in contradiction with the creation of *faits accomplis* because, then, all discussions are meaningless. This is doubly true today and therefore it is not true that the ratification of the Paris agreements will make negotiations easier . . .

At the last meeting of N.A.T.O. the use of atomic weapons was regularised. Atomic weapons will be put in the hands of the new Wehrmacht, that is, in the main the same men who killed millions of people in Europe. This N.A.T.O. decision is one more reason why the Polish people, together with other European nations, must strengthen their fight against the remilitarisation of Germany. Today, the fight against the remilitarisation of Germany is linked up with the fight against atomic war.

I would like to end my general remarks with a few concrete proposals concerning the tasks which lie before us. First we must, without frightening people, explain to every man and woman what atomic war would mean for them, tell them that the prevention of such a war depends on them, tell them that such a war will never happen if they are against it . . .

Secondly, we, as members of parliament, must be aware of what an atomic war means. Appeals and mutual visits of Members of Parliament from different countries would help in this matter . . .

Thirdly, we should organise as many international visits and meetings as we can, all dealing with the threat of atomic war.

Fourthly, we must publish good, attractively printed books and pamphlets, written by our best writers.

We must bend all our efforts towards saving mankind from the viciousness of the enemies of peace. This is the most noble and important task that lies before us. And in it we must and shall not fail.

Mr. PAUL DELANOUE

GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE WORLD FEDERATION OF TEACHERS' UNIONS

We believe that a great universal campaign against weapons of mass destruction, against preparations for a third world war, arousing energy, initiative and devotion, will be successful. We shall be able to give great support to such a campaign, not only among the teachers but also among the parents and students, bearing the experiences in the various countries in mind, seeing to it that they all converge on the same objective, and encouraging initiative . . .

All teachers can, for various reasons and using their own arguments, give their help and support or create favourable conditions for a world campaign against weapons of mass destruction . . .

At the present time, for one reason or another, the major teachers' professional organisations are not remaining aloof from the peoples' fight for peace; on the contrary . . .

For us, the struggle against the atomic weapon is not simply agitation. It is an educative activity. It is the affirmation of our confidence in mankind's possibilities. Man has shown that he can understand and master the forces of nature; great scientists like Professor Joliot-Curie have made science advance with seven-league strides. At present we are confronted with something that depends on man and on man alone — avoiding war; and it is our duty as teachers to do our utmost to see to it that the conscience of mankind stops war.

PROFESSOR KAORU YASUI

(Japan)

GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE JAPANESE NATIONAL COUNCIL AGAINST ATOMIC AND HYDROGEN BOMBS

On January 16th, that is, the day after I left Japan, a general conference of the National Council against Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs was held in Tokyo; and, according to telegrams I have received, it passed some important resolutions including one to convoke a world conference against nuclear weapons and another against the N.A.T.O. decisions sanctioning the use of nuclear weapons . . .

Japanese militarism caused measureless harm to the peoples of the world, while the Japanese people themselves had to suffer unspeakable miseries. The tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, in particular, were beyond description. Through these bitter experiences, the Japanese people, and especially housewives and mothers, began to think, in earnest, that they should never allow another war in the world, in order to protect the lives and happiness of all and especially of the coming generation . . .

The U.S. experiment with a hydrogen bomb at Bikini horrified not only the crew of the *Daigo Fukuryu Maru*, who were the direct victims, but also to the people of Japan as a whole. This, on top of Hiroshima and Nagasaki! Our indignation finally exploded. And it eventually became crystallised in the signature campaign. Many, who had never had any experience of the peace movement, joined; housewives and mothers played particularly important and courageous roles at the head of this campaign. It was nothing less than a 'gushing torrent of national feeling' . . .

As a consummation of this kind of work, we have a project for a 'world conference on the prohibition of atomic and hydrogen bombs' in Hiroshima on August 6th, on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on that city. The preparations are now in progress . . .

Further, as a means of bringing the problem of the bombs to the attention of the peoples of the world, we have great hopes for a project of making a film with international cooperation . . .

The international situation, which seemed to get brighter after the success of the Geneva Conference, has again darkened owing to the prospect of the London and Paris Agreements. Moreover, a new danger has been born as a result of the decision taken by N.A.T.O. to permit and regularise atomic war. We Japanese fully realise how important and precarious the present situation is. There is no other way to meet it than by reinforcing the peace forces in every part of the world in order to confront the war forces and to bring their plans to nought.

Last year, the nucleus of the Peace Movement in Japan was the signature campaign against the atomic and hydrogen bombs. And, this year, with the new state of affairs in the world, we must make it develop into a world movement uniting all the peoples of the antagonistic camps. Moreover, other forms of peace activity, including the campaigns against rearmament, will have to be advanced on the strength of the success of the anti-atomic and hydrogen bomb drive.

Mrs. EUGENIE COTTON

(France)

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE — PRESIDENT OF THE WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION

From one meeting to another we have seen great progress in women's understanding of political problems. This is of great importance when we think of the role women play in the formation of public opinion.

It goes without saying that women in the countries directly threatened by German rearmament feel the need to unite and oppose it. But it is a remarkable fact that the women of Argentina should also have sent messages to the French Deputies to show their opposition to the ratification of the London and Paris Agreements . . .

Faced with the pressing dangers that threaten mankind, the Women's International Democratic Federation will closely associate itself with the preparation and holding of the World Assembly of Representatives of the Forces of Peace which the Peace Movement has called for next May. To achieve the maximum mobilisation of women in all countries, the Federation has convened for June a World Congress of Mothers to protect their children from war, for disarmament and friendship between the peoples . . .

The signature campaign for the banning of nuclear weapons in Japan. A signature-collecting stall at Meguro Station in Tokyo.

The idea of the Congress of Mothers is arousing the enthusiasm of all our national organisations and of many public figures. It will be an important contribution to the work of the Peace Movement and I hope that it will find support among the organisations taking part in the World Assembly, for we both serve the same cause, the cause of peace.

Mr. KUO MO-JO

(China)

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

One month ago, at its short two-day session, the N.A.T.O. Council revealed its criminal intention to massacre the peace-loving peoples by using atomic weapons . . .

The Chinese people and all the peoples of Asia consider such an open act of preparation for atomic war as a serious provocation in opposition to the will of mankind . . .

We Chinese people expressed our ardent support for the historic Stockholm Appeal against atomic weapons launched in 1950.

At that time the People's Republic of China had only been in existence for a short while, but the number of signatures collected for the appeal exceeded 220,000,000 . . .

Recently, the chief of the United States General Staff, Admiral Radford, publicly stated that in the event of a new military conflict, atomic weapons will be used not only in Korea but in other regions. It goes without saying that this is a new threat to the Chinese people arising from the problem of Taiwan . . .

Today, however, these threats of an atomic war have taken a step forward. They have already passed the stage of an irresponsible clamour set up by certain individuals and have become open agreements made between responsible government leaders.

How can the will of all mankind tolerate such a serious provocation without protest?

We are convinced that this cannot be, cannot possibly be.

'Even if you are not ill, a thousand accusing fingers can make you die.' This is one of the most popular proverbs in China. It means that the will of mankind — the criticisms, reproaches and accusations coming from the people — represent an incomparable force . . .

We must mobilise world public opinion so that more than 2,000 million men and women throughout the world raise their hands and point accusing fingers at those who are in favour of atomic war . . .

We are firmly confident that we shall abolish the threat of atomic war.

Mr. NAZIM HIKMET
(Turkey)

Will the atomic bomb be dropped or not, that is the question . . .

Turkey has possessed atomic weapons for a long time and recently manœuvres with atomic weapons were held. The N.A.T.O. powers have decided to use atomic weapons on the basis of the result of these manœuvres in Turkey . . .

It depends on the peoples of Iraq, Iran and Turkey whether atomic weapons will be used in the Middle East or not.

Although their peoples are for peace, it is impossible to organise peace committees and to make publicity for peace in these countries.

But in spite of everything our Peace Movement must make its voice heard legally and it must take advantage of every opportunity and possibility . . .

It must try to see what can be done.

Mr. LUIS VIDALES
(Colombia)

The phenomena of the modern world teach us that we cannot consider events as being foreign to us simply because they take place in far-off regions. German rearmament and the N.A.T.O. decision are beyond a doubt to be taken as a single fact, now that the tendency of those who want war is to set up armies organised for atomic war. But German rearmament exactly corresponds to the policy that these same people are following in Latin America. Now, we fully understand that we are not far away from the war centres, that the atomic bomb can be dropped on our peoples as well, and that we shall therefore not be spared the consequences of its use in any part of the world. At the present time a great hope is arising for the peoples of Latin America — I mean the Soviet offer to set up factories in other countries for the peaceful and progressive use of atomic energy. This offer is filling our movements with a new enthusiasm. For these reasons, we give our full support to the proposal put forward by the President of the World Council of Peace and discussed at this meeting of the Bureau.

Mr. GABRIEL D'ARBOUSSIER
(French West Africa)

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

German rearmament is significant proof that we may once again find ourselves with a rifle in our hands in the Senagalese light infantry, as it used to be and still is called; that we may have recruitment once again and all the other hard conditions that the peoples of Africa had to go through during the war.

I might add that the last war saw the German army in Africa for the first time, and that, too, is an important indication of what German rearmament and the revival of German militarism mean . . .

Mr. d'Arboussier then explained that the peoples of Africa are particularly sensitive to the threat of atomic weapons because the Japanese precedent makes them fear that these weapons will above all be used against coloured people.

There exists in Africa, *he said*, the idea that there is a sort of innate solidarity between Africa and Asia; from this point of view I think that the Afro-Asian Conference is an excellent thing, but I think that we must go further.

As to the atom-bomb — and it is the duty of all of us in Africa to explain this — it is not merely a threat directed against peoples because they are of a different colour, because they belong to one race rather than another. It is a threat directed against mankind as a whole.

Dr. NESTOR GRANCHELLI CHA
(Argentine)

On behalf of the Argentine Peace Council I wish to declare that we support the proposal to launch a great campaign against atomic weapons immediately, for we are convinced that the recent N.A.T.O. decisions have aggravated the danger of wiping out mankind in a fiendish manner . . .

In signing the Stockholm Appeal, millions of Argentinians showed their determination to prevent civilisation from being wiped out. Recently, the peasants — who constitute 60 per cent of the population of Latin America — have, through their most representative organisations, the Argentine Agrarian Federation and the Argentine Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives, gone on record against the use of atomic weapons. But the most striking action on the national, and even on an international, level has been that taken by thousands of Argentine doctors. They collected the signatures of the most eminent members of the medical profession in our country — university professors, Deans and former Deans of medical faculties, directors of hospitals and so on — and sent a message to the United Nations demanding the banning of weapons of mass destruction. The United Nations replied to this request through its Disarmament Commission, stating that it would be studied together with the other aspects of the problem.

Moreover, the members of the Peace Movement approached the Members of Parliament to get them to voice this popular demand. The parliamentary group of the Radical Civic Union, the party to which I belong, recently studied this question with a view to tabling a draft resolution in the Chamber of Deputies. A similar step had already been taken by the Peronista Deputy, Mr. Bustos Fierro.

We can assure you that, in this new campaign, no section of the Argentine people will remain aloof from this noblest of struggles, the struggle to save life.

Mr. A. FADEYEV
(Soviet Union)

VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE WORLD COUNCIL OF PEACE

The N.A.T.O. Council has decided to use atomic weapons in the new war that this bloc is striving to launch.

This decision was taken with the participation of government representatives of the countries taking part in this aggressive bloc . . .

Everything happening in the N.A.T.O. countries, since its Council took this adventurous, inhuman decision, makes us, the friends of peace, tell all peace-loving peoples throughout the world frankly the following: 'The activity of the enemies of peace has gone over into a new stage, a more dangerous one. The threat of atomic war is hanging over the peoples and they must fully realise the fact. They can and must defeat the preparations for atomic war and they are strong enough to do so . . .'

Millions and millions of people throughout the world know that while the Soviet Union acts for the peaceful settlement of international problems, this is not because it is weak but because it wishes to develop in peace and protect itself and other countries against monstrous and absurd destruction and human losses. The Soviet Union is in a position to apply its policy of peace successfully precisely because it is strong . . .

The most ardent enemies of peace, among whom there are clear-sighted men, know full well that the Soviet Union is strong. But that is precisely why, from time to time, they circulate myths about the weakness of the Soviet Union in some sphere or other, so as to deceive the peoples and win them over to their adventurous policy . . .

But there are still large numbers of good, honest but inexperienced people who believe these myths because they are deceived, day in, day out.

To these people I must say, first of all: 'Do not believe the myth that the Soviet Union speaks up for the banning of atomic weapons because it is alleged to feel weaker in this sphere than the aggressive United States. Do not believe those who tell you so. They have seen nothing, they have reckoned nothing, they know nothing.'

The Soviet Union opposes the use of atomic and hydrogen weapons primarily because it considers that they are the most criminal and most inhuman of all types of weapons of mass destruction, and because it wishes to spare its people and other peoples the incalculable losses that the use of such weapons could bring about.

The Soviet Union did not possess this weapon when the aggressive circles of the United States began to brandish the atomic bomb in front of us. We were compelled to arm ourselves with these bombs also in order to protect our country, the hope of mankind, against the adventurist activities of men who have lost all semblance of humanity. But always, and at all stages, the Soviet Union has been and remains a supporter of the banning of atomic weapons and is for the establishment of strict inter-

national control of this ban, and for the peaceful use of atomic energy. The Soviet Union is also in favour of stopping atomic and hydrogen bomb tests and of the simultaneous destruction by all states of their stockpiles . . .

I would like to remind you that during the last session of the United Nations General Assembly, the Soviet Union agreed, in order to reach a successful solution to this problem, to accept the Anglo-French draft proposals, as a basis of agreement, as a result of which unanimity was achieved in the United Nations on the problem of the peaceful use of atomic energy also.

The Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. has recently published a communique on scientific and technical assistance to a number of countries regarding the peaceful use of atomic energy—to China, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania and the German Democratic Republic. The question of extending the number of countries which could receive such assistance is being studied . . .

All thinking men, all impartial men, can see that the decision of the N.A.T.O. Council on the preparation of atomic war is contrary to the agreements reached at the U.N. and that this decision and these agreements are incompatible.

The Soviet Union will continue to base itself on these agreements and act to win the banning of atomic and hydrogen weapons . . .

Though they have been deceived by the propaganda of the enemies of peace, the people of the West must give up the naive idea that the atomic weapon can serve as a guarantee of security in the hands of aggressive politicians and military men. On the contrary, the mad and adventurous policy of these ephemeral governments can at any moment make their own peoples the victims of an atomic war of extermination. The guarantee of security lies in the banning of the atomic weapon and general disarmament.

Mr. SUROSO

(Indonesia)

A few years ago, when the Indonesian Peace Committee started a big campaign against atomic weapons, many people in our country were sceptical, and quite a number thought it was just empty propaganda. But later on, thanks to the continuous work of enlightenment, the people became aware of the dangers of atomic war, and the campaign began to be successful. This could be seen by the spontaneous indignation of our people on the occasion of the explosions at Bikini last March.

This indignation was so great that it became a movement in which people from all walks of life participated . . .

The Indonesian people nowadays are struggling for the extension of the idea of peaceful co-existence, to widen the peaceful areas, and to safeguard and complete their national independence. These principles are supported by the people and the government alike, and they constitute the main strength of our peace forces.

We are aware that these efforts would not mean anything should an atomic war break out . . .

My country is situated far from Europe. I know that the decision of the N.A.T.O. Council is a decision by a military alliance in Europe, but it is a great mistake to say that this question is a matter which only concerns Europe. I believe that once atomic weapons are used, there will be no question of where they will be used first . . . And if this happens, there will no longer be any borders of war or any peace areas . . .

That is why the struggle against German rearmament and the use of atom weapons must have the full support of the peoples all over the world . . .

Mr. RENATO BERTOLINI

SECRETARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RESISTANCE FIGHTERS

A world campaign against atomic weapons can only strengthen our struggle against German rearmament. I believe that resistance fighters, those who escaped from the Nazi prisons, and the victims of fascism and Nazism, have sufficient reasons for striving to prevent such terrible weapons from being put into the hands of men who were capable of exterminating millions of men, women and children . . .

Dr. VOLODIA TEITELBOIM

(Chile)

A month ago the Chilean Peace Council met in Santiago de Chile and decided to give a strong stimulus to the campaign for the banning of the use of atomic weapons. The Council took into consideration the announcement made a few days before that the United States would conduct tests on the H bomb in the Antarctic Ocean in order to experiment with the possibility of melting the vast fields of ice at the South Pole. Chile possesses more than a million square kilometres of territory in the Antarctic. More serious still, the people of Chile remember the terrible fate of the Japanese fishermen. They do not want America to be made a guinea-pig for the hydrogen bomb, any more than they want to be cannon-fodder in a third world war.

It is for this reason that the great campaign launched here will not be something exported from Vienna but rather something bound up with the fears and the deepest desires of the peoples of Latin America who wish to protest their own interests.

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CLOSING SPEECH

PANDIT SUNDARLAL

(India)

For the present I think if there is any organisation which represents the peoples of the world, the voice of the peoples of the world, the fortunes of the peoples of the world, it is this organisation.

My dear friends, the responsibility upon our shoulders therefore is great and I hope, I am sure, we all realise that responsibility. We are here not merely to discuss politics. We are here to fulfil a sacred mission, we are to unite the peoples of the world. We are to make their voice heard by the governments of the world, for after all the peoples are greater than the governments. We are to maintain the progress of the world, the prosperity of the world, the peace of the world, the very existence of the world . . .

India naturally abhors war, war as such, and even more so as a means of solving world problems. Our government's humble efforts to keep out of blocs and to help in the solution of all differences between nation and nation, through peaceful negotiations, are but a natural outcome of our immediate past as well as of our ancient traditions . . .

Every Indian believes that men who can plan to massacre in cold blood innocent and unarmed men, women and children, invalids in their beds and babes in their mothers' arms, have already forfeited the right to be called civilised or cultured, or even human . . . I may not dwell upon the possible consequences of the use of such weapons of mass destruction . . . I once more only assure you that the entire people of India stand, and will throughout stand solidly shoulder to shoulder with you in your noble efforts . . .

We must do all that we can to get as many signatures as we can for this appeal issued by our worthy President. We have to reach every corner of the globe, we have to reach every country and every individual. We have to wake up the conscience of the world. We must remember that we represent the conscience of the peoples of the world; that we represent the voice of the peoples of the world.

A very heavy responsibility falls upon us and therefore I close with a serious appeal to you, with an earnest appeal to you, that each one of you as he goes away from this hall will do his utmost to see to it that this Movement for Peace succeeds, will do his utmost to see to it that every man and woman who can express his or her opinion signs the Appeal. We have to go from door to door, from house to house, and we hope, let us hope, that these efforts of ours will bear fruit . . .

The Peace Movement expects every man and woman to do his or her duty.

American Peace Crusade Statement on Formosan Situation

In a statement on the situation in Formosa, the American Peace Crusade expresses the great anxiety felt by the American people as a result of recent developments in United States policy in the Far East.

'The Cairo Conference of 1943 between the United States, Great Britain and China pledged the restoration of Formosa to China after World War II,' states the American Peace Crusade. 'No international conference or body has withdrawn this pledge. It is therefore understandable why the Government of the People's Republic of China regards U.S. actions off the Chinese coast as interference in its internal affairs.

'Whatever differences exist between the United States and China can be solved peacefully . . .'

In conclusion the American Peace Crusade calls for an avalanche of letters, resolutions and wires to the President, Congressmen and Senators urging that 'no hasty action be taken which could end in world annihilation'.

Avert the Prospect of an Atomic War

Academician Dimitri Skobeltsin, who has just been designated to represent the Soviet Union at the United Nations consultative commission which has been charged with the preparation of the international conference on the peaceful use of atomic energy, has published an article in the Moscow review *International Life*.

The eminent atomic scientist shows how the major international problems relative to the stockpiling of A and H bombs in the United States and the Soviet Union could be solved.

'The solution', writes Academician Skobeltsin, 'lies in setting up and consolidating the system of security, the first foundations of which were laid by the creation of the United Nations Organisation. It is the establishment of a system of relations between the peoples which will ensure the settlement of disputes through negotiations and agreements acceptable to all concerned.

'The problem of the banning of atomic weapons and of the establishment of a system of control over the implementation of this step is, in my opinion, one of the most important problems, if not the most important problem, that the United Nations is called upon to solve . . .

'The best, or more exactly the only solution is the banning of the atomic and hydrogen bombs.

'Throughout the centuries mankind has always rejected wars for the extermination of whole populations. There have always been laws of war based on the inadmissibility of such wars. In present circumstances these principles dictate the imperative necessity of banning the atomic bomb.

'Today the problem is this: either mankind will succeed in barring the way to atomic war—and we believe that this is what will happen—or the world will be hurled into a devastating war. We believe that it is necessary and possible to avert such a prospect.'

National Conference of Japanese Peace Movement against A and H Bombs

The Japanese Peace Movement's National Conference against the A and H bombs, which was held in Tokyo on January 16, registered over 22 million signatures demanding the banning of the A and H bombs. It adopted an 'Appeal to the Peoples of the World' and a 'Resolution condemning the N.A.T.O. decision to arm its troops with atomic weapons'.

Three hundred delegates from all parts of Japan attended the conference, among them the families of victims of the hydrogen bomb tests. The Conference made clear the need for the movement to widen its range and take on an international significance. To this end it was decided:

— to send representatives to international meetings such as the Conference of Asian Countries and the World Assembly of Representatives of All Organisations and Tendencies for Peace, and others;

— to send information and material to other countries;

— to call a World Conference for the banning of the A and H bombs in Hiroshima on August 6, 1955.

The Conference also adopted a resolution urging the Japanese Government to send representatives to the Afro-Asian Conference.

Appeal to the Peoples of the World

'. . .The atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki caused the instantaneous death of 200,000 people in the former city and 90,000 in the latter. But the tragedy did not end with the bombing. Even today, ten years later, we are still seeing survivors dying suddenly from diseases resulting from radioactive contamination . . .

'The effects of the test explosions of the hydrogen bomb at Bikini resulted in the death of Mr. Kuboyama and in serious injuries to the other fishermen on board the *Daigo Fukuryu Maru*. Furthermore, the radioactive emanations given off by these tests contaminated fish—the Japanese people's main source of protein—rainwater and agricultural products, thereby endangering the lives of the Japanese people . . .

'Therefore the Japanese people make the following appeal to the peoples of the world:

"The use of atomic and hydrogen bombs and the testing of these weapons must be banned unconditionally . . .

"We want atomic energy to be used only for peaceful purposes and for the happiness of mankind.

"We hope that the United Nations will continue the negotiations for general disarmament and the banning of weapons of mass destruction . . .

"We call on the peoples of the world to send their representatives to the World Conference for the Banning of the A and H Bombs which will be held in August." '

Resolution against the N.A.T.O. Decisions

'. . .The N.A.T.O. Council has authorised the Supreme Commander of the N.A.T.O. forces to arm his troops with atomic weapons . . .

'The Japanese people, who have thrice suffered disaster from the atomic and hydrogen bombs, consider this decision to be a challenge to mankind and demand that the N.A.T.O. Council withdraw it.'

In a message of 'Hope and Peace' broadcast by the Swiss National Radio Company at the New Year, Queen Elizabeth of Belgium spoke of the problem of nuclear weapons in these terms:

'*The marvellous discoveries of science which are bringing us ever nearer to universal harmony must never become a nightmare to mankind and lead it to destruction and death. The researches and discoveries, indeed the very life of great, inspired men implant in us a loftier conception of man and his destiny. This conception must bring all the peoples together.*

'*My most ardent hope is to see this progress resulting in a better life, physically, intellectually and morally.*'

The Duty of Every Man

In connection with the Vienna Appeal, the Presiding Committee of the Polish Academy of Sciences has published a statement which says:

'It is the duty of every man to demand the destruction of all stocks of atomic weapons wherever they may be and the immediate stopping of their manufacture. The danger of the use of atomic weapons will always exist so long as they have not been destroyed and their destruction banned once and for all.

'Only the common action of all men and women can eliminate this threat to mankind and civilisation. In the name of conscience and reason we enter the battle for the destruction and banning of atomic weapons.'

World Conference of Buddhists Opposes Use of A and H Bombs

The World Conference of Buddhists, held in Burma last December, was attended by Buddhists from 29 countries including Burma, Ceylon, India, Indonesia, Japan, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand, France and Germany. The delegated included the Cambodian and Thailand Ministers for Religious Affairs, the Rev. Asakura, a high dignitary of the Otaniwa sect of Buddhism, and 60 other Japanese prelates.

The Conference adopted a resolution based on a proposal made by Japanese Buddhists which 'calls on the governments and peoples of the whole world to take action to ban the manufacture and use of atomic and hydrogen bombs and other weapons of mass destruction'.

Mr. Ba Uu, President of the Republic of Burma, was present at the conference and greeted Buddhists throughout the world. He hoped the efforts to ban war from the earth would bear fruit.

All India Congress for Peace and Asian S

A view of the procession through Madras

A mass rally of 120,000 people was held on the shore of the Indian Ocean at Madras on January 2 to mark the conclusion of the All India Congress for Peace and Asian Solidarity which had opened on December 30, 1954.

The Congress was preceded by a session of the All India Peace Council and its Bureau on December 28 and 29.

At these meetings proposals for the agenda were discussed and adopted. The Bureau and the All India Peace Council both sent cables to Mr. Nehru conferring at Jakarta with the Prime Ministers of the other Colombo countries expressing the hope that he and the other Asian Prime Ministers would make every effort to avert the dangers of foreign intervention by securing the application of the five principles enunciated by him and Mr. Chou En-lai.

Opening Session

The Congress opened on December 30 in St. Mary's Town Hall, George Town. Fourteen hundred delegates from all over India and from foreign countries were present at the session. Foreign delegates included Professor J. D. Bernal F.R.S. (Great Britain), Vice-President of the World Council of Peace; Mr. Jean Laffitte (France), General Secretary of the World Council of Peace; Mrs. D. N. Pritt (Great Britain); Dr. Andrea Andreen (Sweden) and Mrs. Jessie Street (Australia).

Dr. Saifuddin Kitchlew, in the course of his Presidential address, referred to the leading part played by India in focussing the attention of the peoples of the world on the vital necessity for peaceful co-existence and stressed the need for popularising the five peace principles enunciated by the Prime Ministers of India and China.

Dr. Kitchlew thanked the people of Madras for the warm welcome given to the representatives of the Peace Movement.

'We are particularly happy to note', he said, 'that among the delegates today are large numbers who represent the workers and peasants—the backbone of our country—showing the vast increase in the consciousness of the ordinary people of our country in regard to the problems of peace and the urgent necessity to act for peace . . .'

Peace Song

After Dr. Kitchlew's speech, Mr. Kumari Nagalakshmi sang a 'peace song' which was warmly applauded by the Congress. Then Mr. Romesh Chandra read the messages sent to the Congress by eminent figures from different countries.

During this first session the foreign guests brought greetings from the movements they represented to the All India Congress for Peace and Asian Solidarity.

Group Discussions

On the second day the Congress divided itself into six groups to discuss the following subjects:

1) Asian solidarity and the five principles of peaceful co-existence;

2) Colonialism, racialism and foreign interference in the internal affairs of nations;

3) Disarmament, the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction and the question of German rearmament;

4) Trade among Asian countries and the development of their economies;

Resolutions

On the Five Principles and the Solidarity of Asian and African Countries

In the coming Afro-Asian Conference, the peoples of our two Continents see a new hope for the further strengthening of their solidarity, their ties of unity and brotherhood.

The Afro-Asian Conference will enable the peoples of the two Continents to examine the serious threats which face the peace of the world, particularly in Asia and Africa.

The Indian people are proud that as a result of a number of steps taken by the Prime Minister and the Government of India which have assisted the cause of peace and the part played by the Indian people in the struggle for peace, India has won the affection and esteem of millions in all lands.

The joint declaration of the Prime Ministers of India and China provides a basis for peace and freedom for the whole world in the now historic Five Peace Principles.

The Asian and African peoples fully support these principles and call for their acceptance and implementation by all countries . . .

On Colonialism and Racialism

This Congress anxiously notes that colonialism is being sought to be perpetuated or restored in new forms in various parts of the world. The S.E.A.T.O. pact confronts the countries of South East Asia, including India, with such a danger. The independence of countries like Guatemala, British Guiana, and Iran has been infringed upon by foreign powers. N.A.T.O. powers are being called in to support the Portuguese in maintaining their rule in parts of India . . .

This Congress urges the necessity of Asian solidarity as a condition for the attainment, preservation and maintenance of freedom of the peoples of Asia.

On Taiwan (Formosa)

This All India Congress for Peace and Asian Solidarity strongly feels that the question of Taiwan (Formosa) is at present pregnant with the greatest danger to world peace . . .

The Congress, therefore, while condemning the recent U.S.A.-Chiang Kai-shek military alliance as a great threat to peace in Asia and in the world, demands that all U.S. armed forces be immediately withdrawn from Taiwan and the adjoining waters, leaving the People's Republic of China free to solve its own domestic problems.

On Disarmament and the Banning of Weapons of Mass Destruction

The new weapons of mass destruction, particularly the hydrogen bomb, now threaten the very existence of humanity. This threat has become all the more grave from the recent declaration of the intention to use these weapons as a normal form of armaments.

Accordingly, this Congress urges on all countries to speed up their negotiations (approved by the United Nations Committee) to assure their abolition and the cessation of all experiments as an interim measure. This should be done in a framework of drastic all-round disarmament removing the danger of war and liberating resources to improve conditions of life.

...n Solidarity

5) Cultural relations among the Asian countries and the defence of national culture;

6) Organisational problems.

In the afternoon, delegates belonging to various professions — doctors, lawyers, writers, businessmen, trade unionists and others — met in separate groups and discussed the ways and means of promoting peace and solidarity among the nations of Asia in their own spheres.

Resolutions

In the course of the third day the Congress examined and discussed the draft resolutions proposed by the different commissions and resolutions were adopted on the following subjects:

— The five principles and solidarity between the countries of Asia and Africa.

— The World Assembly of Representatives of the Forces of Peace.

— Colonialism and racialism.

— Taiwan (Formosa).

— German rearmament.

— Malaya.

— Goa.

— Disarmament and the banning of weapons of mass destruction.

— Work of the Cultural Commission.

— Organisational principles.

— Trade between the countries of Asia and their economic development.

Closing Session

At the beginning of its closing session the Congress discussed and adopted a resolution urging the need for cultural exchanges among the different countries of Asia.

The Congress also welcomed the decision of the World Council of Peace to hold a World Assembly for Peace, after which the office-bearers of the All India Peace Council were elected.

The conclusion of the Congress was marked, as we have already said, by a great mass rally. A mile-long procession wound its way from St. Mary's Hall to Triplicane Beach. A caparisoned elephant headed the procession followed by Dr. Kitchlew and foreign delegates who were seated in open carts drawn by bullocks.

At the Triplicane Beach a mass meeting was held. The speakers included Dr. Kitchlew, Dr. J. C. Kumarappa, Dr. Mulk Raj Anand and Pandit Sunderlal who all stressed the need for promoting peace and friendship among the nations of Asia.

The Peace Movement in the Soviet Union

III

● *Delegations for Peace*

The exchange of delegations plays an important part in the work of the Soviet Peace Movement (1). In 1954 alone 22 delegations from 20 countries went to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Peace Committee. They included delegations from the Peace Movement in India, China, the Federal German Republic, Hungary, Finland, Sweden, Norway, Viet-Nam, Burma, Ceylon, Korea, Japan, Argentine, Bolivia, Australia, Canada and other countries. These delegations were composed of persons from different walks of life and of different political parties: Dr. Kuo Mo-jo, President of the *Academia Sinica;* Mr. Josef Wirth, former Chancellor of the German Reich; the Indian singer Mr. Onkar Nath Thakur; Mr. Wilhelm Elfes, President of the Union of Germans for Unity, Peace and Freedom; and writers, workers, housewives and composers, etc.

The delegates visited Moscow, Leningrad, Stalingrad, Kiev, Rostov, Tbilisi, Erivan, Sukhumi, Sochi, and other towns in the Soviet Union. They visited factories, collective and state farms, schools and creches, churches, clinics and universities and had many meetings and discussions with many Soviet citizens — workers and peasants, government ministers and scientists, churchmen and students.

'We have everywhere found proof that the Soviet Government and the whole Soviet people stand for peace and against war. They have no aggressive intentions towards any people.' This was the conviction that Pandit Sunderlal, Vice-President of the All India Peace Council, expressed after his visit to the Soviet Union.

In their turn, the members of the Soviet Peace Movement go on delegations to other countries at the invitation of their respective National Peace Movements. In the Spring of 1954 a delegation led by the writer Mr. A. Sofronov took part in the Finnish National Peace Congress devoted to the *Kalevala*, a national celebration. Last September, Soviet delegates took part in the 'Peace Week' in the German Democratic Republic. Mr. Ilya Ehrenburg, Vice-President of the Soviet Peace Committee, went to Chile and Argentine at the invitation of the National Peace Committees. Professor Anissimov and Mr. Maxim Tank, the poet, both members of the Soviet Peace Committee, were present at the commemoration of Anton Chekhov in Poland. In the course of the past two years members of the Soviet Committee have gone on delegations to China, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Great Britain and many other countries.

● *Conferences, Books and Films*

Another important part of the Soviet Peace Movement's activity is the popularisation of the work of the World Council of Peace.

After the Stockholm session of the World Council of Peace meetings of the local peace committees were called in the Soviet Socialist Republics of Latvia and Lithuania and in Leningrad, Kiev, Minsk, Gorki, Murmansk, Tomsk and other towns. Throughout the country the Peace Movement has called many meetings of opposition to West German rearmament and the London and Paris Agreements. In the near future the decisions taken by the recent extended meeting of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace will be studied at meetings to be called by the Soviet Peace Committee.

Literature and the press, radio and cinema are widely used in the Soviet Union to spread the ideas of the Peace Movement. Full reports on the sessions of the World Council of Peace are published regularly. Between 1950 and 1954 more than 130 different collections and pamphlets on the World Peace Movement were published with a total print of 5 millions copies. The Russian edition of the peace review *Horizons* is published in Moscow and has a big circulation.

In addition, eminent members of the Movement play an active part in this publicity work.

In these last years Mr. Ilya Ehrenburg has published seven volumes of collected articles on the struggle for peace including *Men Want to Live, The Will of the Peoples* and *For Peace*. A collection of the Metropolitan Nikolai's speeches in support of peace has been published and also a book, *The Struggle for Peace*, by Jan Peive, President of the Latvian Peace Committee. The Uzbek actress Sarra Ishanturayeva, member of the Soviet Peace Committee, published in Uzbekistan a book of impressions on the Congress of the Peoples entitled *My Foreign Friends*. Fifteen thousand meetings copies were printed. Members of the Soviet Committee give many talks on the problems of the struggle for peace. Thus Alexei Maresyev, whose heroism is described in Boris Polevoi's novel *The Story of a Real Man*, has given more than 1000 talks, while Lyubov Kosmodemianskaya, the mother of the famous Zoya, has given hundreds of lectures.

Soviet film producers have made a number of documentary films on the Peace Movement, such as 'The Youth of the World' (which won an international peace prize), 'The Soviet People Vote for Peace', and 'We Are for Peace'.

We shall not discuss here the wealth of artistic production — literature, drama, films, painting, sculpture and architecture — which also takes its stand under the banner of peace.

We have tried, in this brief sketch of the Peace Movement in the Soviet Union, to satisfy our readers' requests. This series of articles is far from giving a complete picture of the overall activities of the Soviet Peace Movement which has millions and millions of members. We shall strive to supplement them by giving regular information in this Bulletin.

(1) See last two issues.

Many Events Planned to Celebrate Cultural Anniversaries

The commemoration of the great cultural anniversaries proposed for 1955 by the World Council of Peace promises to be on an even greater scale than in previous years.

The National Peace Committees of a number of countries are drawing up plans for a series of events — some of them very original — so that the commemoration of Schiller, Cervantes, Andersen, Whitman, Mickiewicz and Montesquieu may have the support of intellectuals and the people in general. The aim is to publicise and explain in various ways the works of these great authors: by conferences, exhibitions, special articles in newspapers and reviews, radio broadcasts and so on. The following are also planned: performances of Schiller's plays; readings of Walt Whitman's poems and the execution of musical compositions inspired by them; public discussions on the significance of a particular book, such as *Don Quixote* or Montesquieu's *Persian Letters;* visits by intellectuals to other countries to take part in special events and trips to the historic places where these great figures lived. Czech cinematographers will make cartoons and puppet films based on some of Andersen's tales. Latin American writers will ask cultural bodies in the United States to collaborate in the commemoration of Whitman. The preparations for all these events are going ahead in India and the Soviet Union, in Poland and in Finland, in the United States and in Syria, in Chile and Brazil, in Germany and Great Britain.

This activity of the friends of peace is being taken up indirectly by other circles who will sponsor commemorative events of their own. As decided at its Eighth General Conference, U.N.E.S.C.O. will honour the memory of Mickiewicz by publishing a book on the life and work of the great Polish poet. In the United States, the Library of Congress has recently decided to mark the centenary of the publication of *Leaves of Grass*. Lastly, the announcement that Vittorio de Sica, the famous Italian film director and actor, will very soon make a film of *Don Quixote* with himself in the title role has aroused wide-spread interest.

The 1954 Anniversaries

A great public meeting to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the death of Anton Chekhov has been held in Sao Paulo (Brazil). The novelist Jose Geraldo Vieira and the dramatist Rugero Jacobi spoke on the personality and work of the great writer. The drama group of an office-workers' club presented the play, *The Anniversary*, and a monologue by Chekhov.

In Rumania, there were editions of Chekhov's works, broadcasts, lectures illustrated by performances of extracts from his works in the towns and the villages, exhibitions and the showing of a Soviet film, *The Anna Cross*, adapted from the play of the same name by Chekhov.

Germany

The Cultural Section of the Peace Movement in the German Democratic Republic has discussed the celebration of the anniversaries in detail, and has already published a pamphlet on the six great figures to be celebrated. A selection of their works for schoolchildren will soon appear. A number of works will be published and there will be new editions of others: *Pan Tadeusz* of Mickiewicz, *Tales and Short Stories* and *Selected Tales* by Andersen, Cervantes' *Don Quixote* and Walt Whitman's *Leaves of Grass*. The Schiller Committee is carrying on with the preparations for a special programme in honour of the illustrious author of *Don Carlos*. Works by Schiller and books on him will be published in the course of 1955; they include *Correspondence between Schiller and Körner, A Schiller Picture-book* and eight volumes of the works of Schiller with an introduction by Alexander Abusch.

Similar events have taken place in the German Democratic Republic. A film for epidiascope on Chekhov was made and distributed to the local Peace Committees. The anniversary of Henry Fielding was also celebrated on a wide scale; for example, the Institute of Pedagogy and of the History of Pedagogy of Geifswald University organised an evening memorial meeting. The press has published many articles on Fielding and much information on Aristophanes has been translated from the modern Greek and collected in one volume.

Soviet Union

Important events are to be held in the Soviet Union; foreign intellectuals will take part in certain of them. It is to be noted that the six figures who are being commemorated this year are widely known in the Soviet Union. Between 1918 und 1954 the works of Schiller went through 89 editions in 15 of the languages of the Soviet Union; the total number of copies printed was a million. Montesquieu's *Persian Letters* have been published in Russian and Lithuanian. There have been 39 editions of the works of Mickiewicz in 750,000 copies. Andersen is tremendously popular with Soviet children; there have been 189 editions of his works in 32 of the national languages — a total of 7 million copies. The fiftieth edition of *Don Quixote* appeared recently, with illustrations by the Kukrinskys. Walt Whitman, too, is highly appreciated; a new selection of his works in Russian was published recently and other editions in the various national languages of the Soviet Union are in preparation.

On the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the death of the French scientist Jean-Baptiste Lamarck, the biological section of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and the natural sciences section of V.O.K.S. held a solemn session at which Academician Oparin paid homage to Lamarck's contribution to science.

PIANISTS OF 33 COUNTRIES TO COMPETE IN WARSAW

A Cultural Event: Fifth International Chopin Competition

The Fifth International Chopin Piano Competition will be held in Warsaw from February 22 to March 21. It is one of the most important and famous of international music competitions, and talented young pianists from all over the world, eager to win the coveted title of the best performer of Chopin's music, take part in it. The competition is noted for its high quality and helps to strengthen friendly links between musicians and nations.

One hundred and thirty-eight pianists from 33 countries will compete. They come from Albania, Argentine, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Ceylon, Chile, China, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, Finland, France, German Federal Republic, German Democratic Republic, Great Britain, Guatemala, Holland, Hungary, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxemburg, Mexico, Poland, Rumania, South Africa, the Soviet Union, Switzerland and the United States. Some of these pianists have already won prizes at international competitions in Paris, Geneva, Brussels and Prague. The jury is also international and is composed of world-famous musicians from Poland, the United States, the Soviet Union, Great Britain, China, France, Italy and other countries.

It has been announced that many persons from different countries, composers, pianists, music critics and representatives of the press, radio and cinema, have arrived in Warsaw.

The Fifth International Chopin Piano Competition will be one of the highlights of the Second Polish Music Festival which was inaugurated on January 17, tenth anniversary of the liberation of Warsaw, and will go on till July 2. Great international musical events will take place during the first fortnight of May.

A Chinese women's delegation led by Mrs. Chang Yun, Vice-President of the All China Federation of Democratic Women, has visited France.

Among others taking part were Mrs. Lei Chieh-chiung, Assistant Dean of the Peking Law College, Mrs. Lou Chih-chia, Professor at Tsinghua University, and Mrs. Tsu Teh-hsin, editor of the magazine *Women in New China*.

Commenting on their visit, they said:

'All the countless expressions of friendship which have been lavished upon us give us a further reason for taking an optimistic view of the future development of friendly cooperation in trade and cultural exchanges between China and France. The people of both countries love and need peace.

'This friendly cooperation depends, on mutual understanding; and in order to understand each other personal contacts such as we have had are necessary. We hope that our delegation, which has come to France with a message of peace and friendship, will be the forerunner of other visits. We hope too that in the future more and more French people of every section of society will be able to visit our country where they will be warmly welcomed.'

*

Mr. Dimitri Shostakovich, the Soviet composer and International Peace Prize Winner for 1953 has just been elected a foreign member of the Swedish Royal Academy of Music.

*

A Rumanian Folklore Ensemble including 121 singers, musicians and dancers, gave a highly successful series of performances at the Théatre de l'Empire in Paris. The National Traditional Ballet of the People's Republic of Hungary later performed in the same theatre.

*

A delegation from the Arab Academy of Sciences of Damascus went to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. Its members included the following eminent figures: Mr. Hassani, Vice-President of the Academy; Sheikh Bahdjat Bitar; Dr. Hussein Sabah, former Dean of the University of Syria; Dr. Sami Dahan, and others.

On the delegation's return from the Soviet Union, Sheikh Bahdjat Bitar made an important statement largely devoted to freedom of worship in the Soviet Union and the Soviet people's attachment to peace and their peaceful labour.

*

An exhibition of Soviet painting was held in Damascus last December, under the auspices of the Syrian Fine Arts Society. It attracted a large number of visitors, students especially, and was commented on by all the Syrian press.

A Symbol of Student Friendship

Students have recently given a fine proof of the results which the friendly collaboration of the young people of the world can give: the opening of the International Union of Students' Sanatorium for Asian students, which was recently inaugurated in the presence of 800 delegates, visitors and guests from different countries. The speech made by the Indian Professor Nihar K. Munsi, President of the Calcutta Students' Health Home and a member of the Senate of Calcutta University, stressed the significance of this happy achievement:

'The opening of the I.U.S. Sanatorium for Asian Students in Peking crowns with success the efforts of students of all countries in the field of mutual cooperation. Never before has such a magnificent project been undertaken by the students themselves for their own benefit. In the tense international situation of today the Sanatorium stands out singularly as a symbol of international peace and friendship among peoples of all countries.'

Among the delegates and guests were representatives of the Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese student organisations, the Soviet Anti-fascist Youth Committee, the Union of Czechoslovak Youth, as well as the President of the Association of Filipino Students' Councils, the General Secretary of the National Union of Israeli Students and the President of Students in Sanatoria in France.

Among the distinguished Chinese guests were the Minister of Higher Education, the Vice-Minister of Public Health, the Vice-President of the Red Cross Society, etc...

In the midst of great applause, the French student delegation presented the Sanatorium with a pneumothorax apparatus and the delegation from the Calcutta Students' Health Home presented a portrait of the world famous Indian writer, Rabindranath Tagore.

Addressing the gathering, Mr. Leonardo Ignacio Jr., President of the Association of Filipino Students' Councils, said:

'This Sanatorium is an outstanding testimonial to the unity and friendship of the youth and students of the world... I am sure that for us this is the beginning of a new era of friendship with all students of the world.'

Many messages of greetings were received from student organisations in Poland, Finland, Denmark, Germany, Mongolia, Australia, etc... The Secretary General of the Indonesian Ministry of Education wrote: 'I congratulate you on the opening of this splendid institution and hope it will prosper as a symbol of mankind.'

The Sanatorium, which is situated near Peking, is absolutely up-to-date in its construction and equipment on the basis of plans worked out by Chinese professors of architecture and medicine in collaboration with their students. The project was completed thanks to the collaboration of the All China Students' Federation and students in other countries. It is available free of charge to Asian students who suffer from tuberculosis. Covering an area of 90,000 square metres with a floor space of 20,000 square meters, the Sanatorium provides 300 beds and will give treatment to students suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis. The first group of patients was admitted to the Sanatorium on the opening day.

● Reciprocal Visits by French and Soviet Students

Young people and students of various countries are strongly feeling the need to meet each other regardless of borders, to know each others' desires and experiences and to establish a close international friendship. This is the conclusion to be drawn from the many meetings that have taken place between young people of different nationalities and different points of view. Certain of these exchanges are particularly fruitful because they are reciprocal.

For example, the student section of the Soviet Youth Anti-fascist Committee invited the French National Union of Students to send a delegation of 30 to the Soviet Union. The delegation was led by Mr. Louis Bernier, Vice-President of the Union, and visited schools, universities and clubs: it also had many meetings with Soviet students.

In turn, 30 young Soviet people have made a stay of three weeks in France at the invitation of a committee whose members represent 32 sports, student and cultural organisations, among them the Youth Section of the General Confederation of Agriculture; the Youth Section of the General Confederation of Labour; Catholic and Protestant youth organisations; the French Union of Republican Youth and various scout organisations.

● International Conference on University Sport in Paris

An international conference of European student sport organisations has taken place in the U.N.E.S.C.O. building in Paris. It was convened by O.S.S.U. (the French National Student Sport Federation) and by U.N.E.F. (the French National Union of Students) together with the International Federation of University Sport and the International Union of Students.

At this conference the representatives of 19 European countries — Albania, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, the German Democratic Republic, Great Britain, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Luxemburg, Monaco, Poland, Rumania, the Soviet Union, Spain, Switzerland and Yugoslavia, together with the Saar, — met to discuss how to coordinate student sport on an international level. Unanimous agreement was reached on the conditions of entry into the World University Games and on the possibility of organising University Summer Games in 1956 or 1957.

*

An International Conference of Architectural Students will be held in Paris from April 5 to 13 in the School of Fine Arts. The Sponsoring Committee includes representatives of the Italian and Belgian students and representatives from the International Union of Students and the International Union of Architects. U.N.E.S.C.O. is helping in the preparation of the conference and will take part in it.

GERMANY: *Actions against Remilitarisation and Atomic Weapons*

In the biggest factory of the German Democratic Republic, the 'Leuna-Werke', 650 delegates from 245 enterprises in the Halle district discussed with representatives from West Germany and foreign countries how to make their factories into bastions for peace.

In a telegram to Mr. Jean Laffitte, General Secretary of the World Council of Peace, the participants write:

'We shall explain the meaning of the signature campaign against the preparations for atomic war in our factories and localities and to our comrades and fellow citizens in such a detailed way that this action will become an effective means of attaining the objectives set out in the Vienna Appeal.'

In the German Democratic Republic more than 52,000 artists, scientists and intellectuals have already signed the Appeal against the London and Paris Agreements issued by Professor Walther Friedrich, President of the German Academy of Sciences, and by the poet Bertold Brecht.

In the German Federal Republic the German Association for Peace held a conference in Duisburg on January 16. We give the following extracts from the statement that was issued at the end of the Conference:

'The decisions of the last session of the N.A.T.O. Council clearly show that any new war would be an atomic war, and that would mean the end of the countries affected by it, including Germany . . .

'The German Association for Peace calls for the exploration of all possible ways of entering into discussion with the people and organisations on the other side of the Elbe and of helping to create the necessary conditions for the reunification of Germany.

'The German Association for Peace calls on the Federal Government, political parties and all members of the Federal Parliament to oppose the ratification of the Paris Agreements. We would point out that, in making his decision, each member of parliament shoulders a heavy responsibility for the future of Germany.'

A section of the vast queue of people waiting to see their M.Ps.

FRANCE: *Week of Action against the Paris Agreements*

The National Council of the French Peace Movement met on January 30 shortly after the meeting of the Bureau of the World Council of Peace in Vienna. The problems dealt with at Vienna were the theme of the discussion: the rearming of Germany and the threat of atomic war.

This session of the National Council reflected the extension of the influence of the Peace Movement; it was attended by a number of elected representatives, political and trade union figures and others of a wide variety of views.

Mr. Gilbert de Chambrun, in presenting the report, spoke of the two threats that are hanging over the world: the threat of the revival of German militarism and the policy of intimidation based on the atomic strategy.

There were many contributions to the discussion including that of Mr. Laurent Casanova who showed the link between German rearmament and the N.A.T.O. decisions on atomic weapons and stated that the French people will never submit to this. With the aid of British and American documents, Mr. Picard stressed the gravity of the atomic problem, and an engineer who works in the Atomic Energy Headquarters described the attitude of French research workers to this question. Mr. Bernard Lavergne analysed the Paris Agreements.

At the end of the session three texts were unanimously adopted:

— An 'Address to the German People' assuring them of the French people's support in their action against German rearmament, for a united and peaceful Germany and for security and peace in Europe;

— An 'Appeal against the Ratification of the London and Paris Agreements calling on all Frenchmen to take part in a week of action, from February 14 to 20, to make known to the Council of the Republic the country's feeling about the London and Paris Agreements, and to bring effective pressure to bear on the municipal and county councillors and the senators;

— An 'Appeal for a National Assembly of Organisations and Tendencies for Peace' which asks all Frenchmen to help in the preparation of a national demonstration against German rearmament and the atomic menace on March 27. This would be part of the preparations for sending a French delegation to the World Assembly of Representatives of Organisations and Tendencies for Peace.

GREAT BRITAIN:

Ten Thousand British Call On Their M.Ps. Demand 'No Arming of Germany' Biggest Political Demonstration for Twenty Years

Responding to the call of the British Peace Committee ten thousand people from every part of Great Britain went to the reopening of Parliament on January 25 to see their M.P.s, to call upon them to oppose the rearming of Germany and to demand the reopening of the debate on the Paris Agreements. It was the biggest political demonstration of its kind in Great Britain since before the war.

In specially chartered buses, by train, by car, deputations elected by trade unions, cooperative organisations, labour parties, peace organisations, women's organisations, came from North Scotland, West Wales, the far South West of England, from the great industrial towns, Manchester, Sheffield, Birmingham, Coventry, from the rural areas of Sussex, Gloucestershire and other counties. A specially striking fact was that most of these deputations were fifty to a hundred per cent bigger than was expected.

Starting at two o'clock in the afternoon before the House opened, the stream of deputations continued right into the evening. At seven o'clock there were six thousand people queuing to get in to their M.P.s, singing and shouting slogans which could be heard in the House during the debate.

In spite of the police, who prevented the majority from going into the lobby, many succeeded in seeing their M.P.s, some of whom came out into Parliament Square to talk to their constituents.

Later in the evening the police tried to disperse the thousands who were waiting to see their M.P.s. Mounted police rode into the queues, using their batons. This only gave all the more spirit to the march which then took place through the centre of London, with over ten thousand taking part.

At the end of the march the Hon. Ivor Montagu, Vice-President of the British Peace Committee, at a big open-air meeting, said:

'Let the M.P.s realise that what has happened today is not the end but the beginning — the signal for a still greater avalanche that will bring into motion millions of people until the Wehrmacht is defeated before it can march again.'

Mr. Montagu put to the meeting the Peace Movement's proposals for the next steps in the campaign:

1. Continual lobbying of all M.P.s in their constituencies.

2. Organisation of 5,000 public meetings in streets, shopping centres and outside factories.

3. A series of local and area conferences bringing together the widest range of organisations.

It was also agreed by acclamation to send messages of support to the Peace Committees of France and of East and West Germany.

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